

**WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING AGENDA**

Monday, March 20, 2023 (Zoom Meeting) - 7:00 P.M.
Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81243937308>

Meeting Agenda is also located on the [Township Website Calendar](#).
Residents who wish to appear in-person for this meeting may do so at the Township Building.

MEMBERS:

LITZINGER-DRAYTON GEASLAND HARRIS TONE SHREERO HERITAGE
 KABNICK

LIAISONS:

GLECKNER, Staff TURENNE, BOS

1. CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 7:02.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Shreero welcomed the scout troop.

Mr. Gleckner introduced the Trash Mob Event and the Montgomery County awards. The board thanked Tom Blomstrom for the invitation. The county sustainability awards were discussed, there were no projects that the board was aware of that may be eligible.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. *Plastic Bag Ordinance - Letter and Survey*

Ms. Shreero introduced the project and the recent actions. Mr. Gleckner stated that there were three responses to the survey, the letter was sent to around 70 businesses. There were two negative responses and one relatively neutral response. There was no feedback that informs any change to the Ordinance. There was some correspondence that commented on the content of the BOS presentation and suggested picking up trash on Andorra Road.

The time frame was discussed. There is a 90-day period once the Ordinance is adopted before it takes effect. The EAB discussed the next steps. **Chair Shreero motioned that the EAB recommended the Board of Supervisors consider the adoption of the Ordinance at the next meeting. Ms. Harris seconded the vote, all voted in favor.**

b. PSA Videos. – Reduce and Rot

Chair Shreero introduced the PSAs. Mrs. Harris suggested minor modifications to each of the videos. Ms. Kabnick asked who watches Whitemarsh TV. Other methods of dissemination were discussed. There was discussion of when the voice overs will be completed. The goal was to complete the videos before Township Day.

c. Discussion of Volunteer Day with Friends Academy

Ms. Saurman stated that she wants to do a service that will improve the Watershed, anything that 11- and 12-year-olds can do that is not picking up trash. Ms. Kabnick asked if there was any Germantown Academy land that could be used. Ms. Saurman stated that she wanted the effect to be on the broader community. Ms. Kabnick stated that Fort Washington State Park has a Friends of the Park Group that often does events. Ms. Kabnick stated that they would work together to find work in Fort Washington, invasive removal, or trail maintenance, will talk to Jamie and the Ranger. Ms. Shreero noted that the Township is giving out green recognition awards and suggested that GA apply.

d. Lawn conversion joint effort with Shade Tree Commission – Update

Ms. Kabnick introduced the project. She reminded the EAB that there will be a site visit next Wednesday to visit sites that could potentially be converted to forest. There was a note that the projects will now be bid on by contractors. There was discussion of different local contractors that could apply for the projects.

Two sites near Valley Green and Senton will be definite sites. The site on Thomas Road will be considered. The program was introduced to the members of the public in attendance.

e. Township Day – April 22nd

Ms. Shreero introduced the event. There will be examples of compost, compost information, examples of reducing waste. It was noted that 30% of landfill waste is food. Ms. Shreero stated that she will send out a list to get names to sign up for shifts. Mr. Geasland will reach out to SRT and the nature center to see if they are interested in speaking on the day. There was discussion of the items to be raffled off. There will be a QR code for the table that links to composting info.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Green Recognition Program Applicant – Back to Earth Composting LLC

Ms. Shreero introduced the applicant and their composting service. There costs, logistics and pickup was discussed. The benefits of a composting service were discussed. **Ms. Kabnick motioned to grant the award, Ms. Harris Seconded, all voted in favor.** The applicant will get noted on Township Day, will be posted on the website, and will have a photo taken.

b. EAB information board on Township Lot

Mr. Gleckner noted that there is still a board on the township lot with information on it. The group discussed when it was installed and potentially using it after the construction of the stormwater basin later in the year.

c. Stormwater MS4 Updates from Township Engineer – EAB Input

Mr. Gleckner introduced the stormwater permits that Ms. Heinrich submitted this this year. Ms. Harris went through a list of out-of-date information and potential updates. Ms. Harris gave Mr. Gleckner a list of updates to bring to Ms. Heinrich.

5. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

a. The January 30, 2023 Minutes were approved with modifications.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were various comments from the scout troop in attendance. These included comments about litter following the last Township Day, potential involvement from the Environmental Club at Colonial High School, Fort Washington Park and Wissahickon Trails invasives removal, and the plastic bag ban.

There was also discussion from residents about the Township rain garden, recycling pickup, and other EAB issues.

7. BOARD COMMENTS

The Board thanked the members of the public for coming.

8. Next Meeting Date: May 15th, 2023

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Geasland motioned to adjourn, Ms. Shreero seconded the motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INFORMATION

1. Public meetings of the EAB shall follow a prescribed agenda, which will be available to the general public two days preceding the meeting.
2. The EAB will entertain Public Comment at the end of each specific action items during the meeting, at the discretion of the Chair. Individuals must advise the Chair of their desire to offer such comment.
3. A Public Comment period will be provided at the conclusion of a meeting for input on any subject.
4. The Board Chair shall preside over Public Comments and may within their discretion:
 - a. Recognize individuals wishing to offer comment.
 - b. Require identification of such persons.
 - c. Allocate total available Public Comment time among all individuals wishing to comment.
 - d. Allocate up to a five (5) minute maximum for each individual to offer Public Comment at a meeting.
 - e. Rule out of order scandalous, impertinent and redundant comment or any comment the discernible purpose of which is to disrupt or prevent the conduct of the business of the meeting including the questioning of, or polling of, or debating with, individual members of the Board.